Collins Balcombe received his Bachelor's degree in Zoology from the University of Texas at Austin in 1998 and a Master's degree in Natural Resources Management from West Virginia University in 2003. Collins began his career at the Bureau of Reclamation immediately thereafter, and after ten years of employment, now serves as the supervisor of the planning, environmental, and construction assistance programs for Reclamation's Oklahoma-Texas Area Office out of Austin, TX. Collins also enjoys his appointment as the Great Plains Regional Coordinator for Reclamation's Science and Technology Program, where he helps provide guidance and coordination on innovative research approaches to address water-related issues, including desalination.